### 1 State of New Hampshire Banking Department )Case No.: 08-381 In re the Matter of: 2 State of New Hampshire Banking 3 )Order to Show Cause with Immediate Department, 4 )Suspension 5 Petitioner, ) and 6 and ) Cease and Desist Order Empire Equity Group, Inc. (d/b/a 1st 7 Metropolitan of NY), Corporate Office 8 Management Providers, Inc., Daniel 9 10 Howard Jacobs, Joshua Israel Lieber, Ezra S. Beyman, William Dean Warren, 11 and Christopher Derek Max, 12 13 Respondents 14

### NOTICE OF ORDER

This Order commences an adjudicative proceeding under the provisions of RSA 397-A, RSA 541-A, BAN 200 and JUS 800.

### LEGAL AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION

Pursuant to RSA 397-A:17, the Banking Department of the State of New Hampshire (hereinafter, the "Department") has the authority to issue an order to show cause why license revocation and penalties for violations of New Hampshire Banking laws should not be imposed.

Pursuant to RSA 397-A:18, the Department has the authority to issue a complaint setting forth charges whenever the Department is of the opinion that the licensee or person over whom the Department has jurisdiction is

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violating or has violated any provision of RSA Chapter 397-A, rule or order thereunder.

Pursuant to RSA 397-A:18, II, the Department has the authority to issue and cause to be served an order requiring any person engaged in any act or practice constituting a violation of RSA 397-A or any rule or order thereunder, to cease and desist from violations of RSA 397-A.

Pursuant to RSA 397-A:17 and RSA 541-A:30 the Bank Commissioner ("Commissioner) may by order summarily postpone or suspend any license or application pending final determination of any order to show cause, or other order, or of any other proceeding under this section, provided the Commissioner finds that the public interest would be irreparably harmed by delay in issuing such order.

Pursuant to RSA 397-A:20, the Commissioner may issue, amend, or rescind such orders as are reasonably necessary to comply with the provisions of the Chapter.

Pursuant to RSA 397-A:21, the Commissioner has the authority to suspend, revoke or deny any license and to impose administrative penalties of up to \$2,500.00 for each violation of New Hampshire banking law and rules.

Pursuant to RSA 383:10-d, the Commissioner shall investigate conduct that is or may be an unfair or deceptive act or practice under RSA 358-A and exempt under RSA 358-A:3,I or that may violate any of the provisions of Titles XXXV and XXXVI and administrative rules adopted thereunder. The Commissioner may hold hearings relative to such conduct and may order restitution for a person or persons adversely affected by such conduct. The Commissioner may utilize all remedies available under the Act.

# NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REQUEST A HEARING

Pursuant to RSA 541-A:30, the Department shall hold a hearing within ten (10) working days after the date of this Order suspending the Respondents' license. That hearing is noticed under separate cover. A record of this proceeding shall be made by a certified shorthand court reporter provided by this Department. If any of the Respondents fails to appear at the hearing after being duly notified, such person shall be deemed in default, and the proceeding may be determined against the defaulting Respondent(s) upon consideration of the Order, the allegations of which may be deemed to be true.

After said hearing and within 20 days of the date of the hearing the Commissioner shall issue a further order vacating this Order or making it permanent as the facts require and making such findings as are necessary. All hearings shall comply with 541-A.

The above named Respondents have the right to be represented by counsel at each Respondent's own expense. Any such request shall be in writing, and signed by the Respondents or by the duly authorized agent of the above named Respondents, and shall be delivered either by hand or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the New Hampshire Banking Department, 53 Regional Drive, Suite 200, Concord, NH 03301.

### STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS, APPLICABLE LAWS AND REQUEST FOR RELIEF

The <u>Staff Petition</u> dated November 6, 2008 (a copy of which is attached hereto) is incorporated by reference hereto.

# ORDER

WHEREAS, finding it necessary and appropriate and in the public interest, and consistent with the intent and purposes of the New Hampshire banking laws,

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WHEREAS, finding that the allegations contained in the Staff Petition, if proved true and correct, form the legal basis of the relief requested, and

WHEREAS, FINDING a substantial likelihood that delay will cause harm to the public health, safety or welfare, requiring emergency action,

It is hereby ORDERED, that:

- 1. Respondents' license is immediately suspended; and
- Pursuant to RSA 541-A:30, III, an adjudicative hearing shall be held within ten (10) working days of the date of this Order.

It is hereby further ORDERED, that:

- 3. Respondent Empire Equity Group (d/b/a 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage of NY) (hereinafter, "Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage") shall show cause why penalties in the amount of \$770,000.00 should not be imposed against it;
- 4. Respondent Corporate Office Management Providers, Inc. (hereinafter, "Respondent Corporate Office Management") shall show cause why penalties in the amount of \$692,500.00 should not be imposed against it;
- 5. Respondent Daniel Howard Jacobs (hereinafter, "Respondent Jacobs") shall show cause why penalties in the amount of \$770,000.00 should not be imposed against him;
- 6. Respondent Joshua Israel Lieber (hereinafter, "Respondent Lieber") shall show cause why penalties in the amount of \$692,500.00 should not be imposed against him;
- 7. Respondent Ezra S. Beyman (hereinafter, "Respondent Beyman")
  shall show cause why penalties in the amount of \$77,500.00
  should not be imposed against him;

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8. Respondent William Dean Warren (hereinafter, "Respondent Warren") shall show cause why penalties in the amount of \$770,000.00 should not be imposed against him;

- 9. Respondent Christopher Derek Max (hereinafter, "Respondent Max") shall show cause why penalties in the amount of \$770,000.00 should not be imposed against him;
- 10. Respondents shall be jointly and severally liable for the above amounts; and
- 11. The above named Respondents shall show cause why, in addition to the penalties listed in paragraphs 1 through 10 above, Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage's license should not be revoked.

# It is hereby further ORDERED that:

- 12. Along with the \$770,000.00 administrative penalty for Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage, the administrative penalties for the remaining above named Respondents, the outstanding sum of all above penalties shall be immediately paid;
- 13. The Respondents shall immediately **Cease and Desist** from all violations of New Hampshire law and the rules promulgated thereunder; and
- 14. Failure to attend the hearing to be held within 10 days of this Order shall result in a default judgment being rendered and administrative penalties imposed upon the defaulting Respondents(s).

SIGNED,

Dated:11/6/08

/s/ PETER C. HILDRETH BANK COMMISSIONER

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                       State of New Hampshire Banking Department
                                             )Case No.: 08-381
    In re the Matter of:
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                                             )Staff Petition
    State of New Hampshire Banking
 3
    Department,
 4
                                             )November 6, 2008
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                Petitioner,
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          and
    Empire Equity Group, Inc. (d/b/a 1st
 7
    Metropolitan of NY), Corporate Office
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    Management Providers, Inc., Daniel
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    Howard Jacobs, Joshua Israel Lieber,
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    Ezra S. Beyman, William Dean Warren,
    and Christopher Derek Max,
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                Respondents
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# I. STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS

The Staff of the Banking Department, State of New Hampshire (hereinafter, "Department") alleges the following facts:

# Facts Common on All Counts:

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- 1. Respondent Empire Equity Group (d/b/a 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage of NY) (hereinafter, "Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage") has been licensed as a Mortgage Broker since at least the year 2000(with an amended license date of January 15, 2008).
- 2. Respondent Corporate Office Management Providers, Inc. (hereinafter, "Respondent Corporate Office Management") is the 100% direct owner of Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage.

- 3. Respondent Daniel Howard Jacobs (hereinafter, "Respondent Jacobs") is Chief Executive Officer and Director of Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage, as well as an indirect owner thereof by way of his fifty percent (50%) ownership of Respondent Corporate Office Management.
- 4. Respondent Joshua Israel Lieber (hereinafter, "Respondent Lieber") is an indirect owner of Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage by way of his fifty percent (50%) ownership of Respondent Corporate Office Management.
- 5. Respondent Ezra S. Beyman (hereinafter, "Respondent Beyman") was owner and President of Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage until January 8, 2008, when it was acquired by Respondent Corporate Office Management.
- 6. Respondent William Dean Warren (hereinafter, "Respondent Warren")
  is the Chief Compliance Officer for Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan
  Mortgage.
- 7. Respondent Christopher Derek Max (hereinafter, "Respondent Max") is Respondent  $1^{\rm st}$  Metropolitan Mortgage's Salem, New Hampshire branch office Branch Manager.
- 8. References to Respondents are made throughout the Staff Petition for ease of reference; however:
  - a. Respondents Corporate Office Management and Lieber are only included in violations occurring on and after January 8, 2008; and
  - b. Respondent Beyman is only included in violations occurring

1	before January 8, 2008.
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4	DEFRAUDING THE LENDER - CONSUMER A LOAN FILE
5	Violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, et seq. via RSA 397-A:2,III (11
6	Counts):
7	Violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1010 via RSA 397-A:2, III (11 Counts):
8	Violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1344 via RSA 397-A:2, III (11 Counts):
9	Violation of RSA 397-A:6, I Failure to Supervise (11 Counts):
10	Violation of RSA 397-A:17,I(f) Violation of Federal Laws and Rules (11
11	<u>Counts):</u>
12	Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(g) Failure to Supervise (11 Counts):
13	Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(k) Dishonest or Unethical Practices (11
14	Counts):
15	Violation of RSA 397-A:17,I(1) Violation of Federal Laws and Rules (11
16	<u>Counts):</u>
17	9. Paragraphs 1 through 8 are hereby realleged as fully set forth
18	herein.
19	10. Consumer A's (two individuals) loan file contained a loan
20	application signed July 2, 2008 but the signature does not appear
21	to match either of the two individuals listed as Borrower, as
22	compared to the Borrowers' identification.
23	11. The July 2, 2008 loan application was prepared by Respondent $1^{\rm st}$
24	Metropolitan Mortgage's loan originator (hereinafter, "Employee
25	#1").

- 12. The dollar amounts for Bank Account A was listed as \$160.00 and the dollar amount for Bank Account B was listed as \$3,950.00 on the July 2, 2008 loan application.
- 13. The second loan application was unsigned and dated but it appeared to be whited out and replaced with the date of July 24, 2008.
- 14. The July 24, 2008 unsigned loan application showed Bank Account
  A's balance as \$4,100.97 and Bank Account B's balance as
  \$1,798.25.
- 15. The third loan application was signed and dated July 25, 2008 and submitted to the Lender.
- 16. Again, the signatures of Consumer A (two individual borrowers) do not match to the signatures on other signed documents or on the Borrowers' identification.
- 17. Bank Account A is listed on the July 25, 2008 loan application submitted to the Lender with a \$4,100.97 balance. Bank Account B is listed on the same loan application submitted to the Lender with a balance of \$1,798.25.
- 18. The Verification of Deposit Form was part of the loan application and submitted to the Lender, as well.
- 19. The Verification of Deposit was dated June 30, 2008 from Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage to an individual at the Bank wherein Consumer A had the two accounts. This is two days from the earliest dated loan application in Consumer A's loan file.
- 20. Section 5 of the Verification of Deposit, filled out by

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Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage's Employee #1, matches the amounts listed for Bank Account A and Bank Account B in the July 2, 2008 loan application. To wit: \$160.00 and \$3,950.00, respectively.

- 21. The Bank's verification, allegedly signed by an individual at the Bank, was signed on July 1, 2008, which is one day earlier than the first loan application found in the loan file.
- 22. This July 1, 2008 Verification of Deposit was submitted to the Lender and found in the Lender's loan file for Consumer A submitted to the Department.
- 23. The name of the individual is of someone who actually works on the Bank; however, the amount on the Bank's alleged verification is \$4,100.97 for Bank Account A and \$1,798.25, which are the same amounts listed on the July 25, 2008 forged loan application submitted to the Lender.
- 24. The Bank Account A balance submitted to the Lender showed a \$4,100.97 balance with a two month average balance of \$4,445.00.
- 25. The Bank Account B balance submitted to the Lender showed a \$1,798.25 balance with a two month average balance of \$476.00.00.
- 26. The Department received actual verifications from the Bank for the same time period used in the July 25, 2008 forged loan application submitted to the Lender.
- 27. Bank Account A actually had a \$0.97 balance with a two month average balance of \$1,093.50 and Bank Account B had a \$1,913.16 balance with a two month average balance of \$1,420.00.

- 28. Further, the Department found the original version of the July 1, 2008 Verification of Deposit, cut into pieces in Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage's Shred-It bin located in the Salem, New Hampshire branch office.
- 29. The original July 1, 2008 verification showed no creases or facsimile lines, which would be present if it was mailed or submitted to the Bank for an actual verification of deposit.
- 30. The "Mortgage Credit Analysis Worksheet", dated July 25, 2008, disclosed "j. Assets Available \$5,899.22." This figure represents the account totals (\$4,100.97 + 1,798.25) Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage used in its July 25, 2008 loan application submitted to the Lender.
- 31. The actual deposit amounts received by the Bank show that "j.

  Assets Available" should be \$1,914.13 (\$0.97 + \$1,913.16).
- 32. Respondent  $1^{st}$  Metropolitan Mortgage over-stated the assets available by \$3,985.09 (\$5,899.22 \$1,914.13).
- 33. Section 32 of the desktop underwriter disclosed \$5899.00 as the assets counted towards available funds.
- 34. Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage's July 2, 2008 loan application (signed but not submitted) indicated the total assets as \$4,110.00 (\$160.00 + \$3,950.00). An underwriting summary in the Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage's loan file stated that "the depository assets totaling \$4,110.00 must be verified by one of the following: a) VOD..."
- 35. Therefore, the Verification of Deposit was altered to meet the

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minimal underwriting requirements.

- 36. The Lender's loan package submitted by Respondent 1st Metropolitan Mortgage contained a document entitled "Conditional Approval", which listed conditions that needed to be satisfied for loan approval and funding.
- 37. Conditions 9, 10, and 22 (which are the FHA Amendatory Clause, Important Notice to Homebuyers, and signed and dated explanation of credit inquires, respectively) required borrower signatures.
- 38. The three documents (Conditions 9, 10, and 22) contained the names of the two individual Borrowers (collectively, Consumer A); however, the signatures did not appear to be of either of the two individual Borrowers collectively known as Consumer A.
- 39. The Verification of Employment was also a required document for the Consumer A loan file submitted to the Lender, who funded the loan for Consumer A.
- 40. A Verification of Employment for one of the two Borrowers of the Consumer A file (for purposes herein "Borrower 1") was discovered in the Shred-It bin in Respondent 1st Metropolitan Mortgage's Salem, Hampshire branch office. The Verification Employment indicated Borrower 1 worked for in а Georgetown, Massachusetts.
- 41. This Verification of Employment was completed in blue ink and contained white out in Section #9 - Applicant's date Employment.
- 42. Section #9 of the Verification of Employment for Borrower

Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(k) Dishonest or Unethical Practices

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Counts):

- 51. Again, the lack of creases and facsimile transmission lines indicates this Borrower 2 Verification of Deposit, which includes the Bank's section of information already filled out, to be fabricated at Respondent 1st Metropolitan Mortgage's Salem, New Hampshire branch office.
- 52. The Department received actual account information from the Bank with respect to the same time frames stated in the Borrower 2

  Verification of Deposit.
- 53. According to the Bank, Bank Account C had a balance of \$56.32 with a two month average balance of \$56.00. Bank Account D had a balance of \$4,518.81 with a two month average balance of \$2,175.50.
- 54. Respondents over-reported funds available in Bank Account D by \$31,000.00.
- 55. On August 15, 2008, the Department asked for the copy of Consumer B's file to be delivered to the Department no later than August 20, 2008.
- 56. To date, Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage has been unable to locate any records regarding Consumer B's loan file.
- 57. The Department's previous observation from a previous examination indicated that Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage failed to maintain complete loan files and failed to provide legible copies of documents contained within loan files.
- 58. It appears such violations have been observed again in the 2008 examination.

2	Violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, et seq. via RSA 397-A:2,III (2
3	Counts):
4	Violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1010 via RSA 397-A:2, III (2 Counts):
5	Violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1344 via RSA 397-A:2, III (2 Counts):
6	Violation of RSA 397-A:6, I Failure to Supervise (2 Counts):
7	Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(f) Violation of Federal Laws and Rules (2
8	Counts):
9	Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(g) Failure to Supervise (2 Counts):
10	Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(k) Dishonest or Unethical Practices (2
11	Counts):
12	Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(1) Violation of Federal Laws and Rules (2
13	Counts):
14	59. Paragraphs 1 through 58 are hereby realleged as fully set forth
15	herein.
16	60. Consumer C's loan application disclosed Consumer C was applying
17	to refinance his primary residential dwelling located in
18	Moultonborough, New Hampshire.
19	61. Consumer C's loan application disclosed that the Moultonborough,
20	New Hampshire address was his current address, that Consumer C
21	had two rental properties located in Massachusetts (Hudson and
22	Framingham), and that Consumer C worked for a real estate
23	appraisal company in Stow, Massachusetts.
24	62. The Hudson, Massachusetts rental property was the same address as
25	was listed on Consumer C's credit card statement dated September

DEFRAUDING THE LENDER - CONSUMER C LOAN FILE

1	28, 2006.
2	63. A copy of Consumer C's Massachusetts driver's license was
3	included in the loan file, with an expiration date of June 29
4	2009.
5	64. Consumer C's loan application disclosed a Massachusetts telephone
6	number as the home telephone number.
7	65. The mortgage, which was executed in Worcester, Massachusetts
8	December 15, 2006, disclosed the occupancy as owner-occupied.
9	66. The two loans $(1^{st}$ and $2^{nd})$ were submitted to Lender B as an owner-
10	occupied residence.
11	67. Further, a whitepages.com search for the State of New Hampshire
12	was conducted by the Department on September 15, 2008 and did not
13	reveal a listing for Consumer C.
14	68. However, a whitepages.com search on September 15, 2008 for the
15	State of Massachusetts revealed Consumer C's address as the same
16	as the Framingham, Massachusetts property which was listed as a
17	rental property on Consumer C's loan application.
18	69. The combined facts above reveal that Respondent 1 <sup>st</sup> Metropolitar
19	Mortgage's loan originator willfully misrepresented the occupancy
20	status of Consumer C to Lender B.
21	INTENT TO DEFRAUD THE LENDER - VARIOUS CONSUMER FILES
22	Violation of RSA 397-A:6, I Failure to Supervise (2 Counts):
23	Violation of RSA 397-A:17,I(g) Failure to Supervise (2 Counts):
24	Violation of RSA 397-A:17,I(k) Dishonest or Unethical Practices (2 Counts):
25	70. Paragraphs 1 through 69 are hereby realleged as fully set forth

herein.

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- 71. The above named Respondents failed to properly supervise employees of Respondent  $1^{\rm st}$  Metropolitan Mortgage.
- 72. An email was discovered between Consumer D and Employee #2 regarding the purchase of a condominium.
- 73. Consumer D sought a purchase money loan and was not pleased with the interest rate and payment figures Employee #2 calculated.
- 74. In response to Consumer D's dislike of the stated figure,

  Employee #2 suggested the condominium be financed as a second

  home for Consumer D's father and the rates would be better.
- 75. This email demonstrates Employee #2's willingness to creatively finance a borrower with a substitute borrower in order to obtain better rates, which in this circumstance would actually be falsifying borrower and occupancy information on the loan file.
- 76. This email also demonstrates the lack of supervision concerning potential loan applications.
- 77. Another example was an email was discovered dated July 15, 2008 between a settlement attorney, three of Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage's employees stating "we're wide open to close either late tomorrow or anytime Thursday [sic] (and backdate for weds [sic] w/out telling the lender)."
- 78. Although the documents were not backdated, there is no record that the three licensee employees did not respond they were not willing to backdate documents without lender involvement. This email also demonstrates the lack of supervision of potential loan

1	files and closing documents.
2	MANIPULATION OF DOCUMENTS: CUT, TAPE, COPY, & WHITE OUT
3	Violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, et seq. via RSA 397-A:2,III (15
4	Counts):
5	Violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1010 via RSA 397-A:2,III (15 Counts):
6	Violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1344 via RSA 397-A:2,III (15 Counts):
7	Violation of RSA 397-A:6,I Failure to Supervise (15 Counts):
8	Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(f) Violation of Federal Laws and Rules (15
9	Counts):
10	Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(g) Failure to Supervise (15 Counts):
11	Violation of RSA 397-A:17,I(k) Dishonest or Unethical Practices (15
12	Counts):
13	Violation of RSA 397-A:17,I(1) Violation of Federal Laws and Rules (15
14	Counts):
15	79. Paragraphs 1 through 78 are hereby realleged as fully set forth
16	herein.
17	80. During a review of Respondent 1 <sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage's Shred-It
18	bins and loan files in the Salem, New Hampshire branch office,
19	Department Examiners found several documents which demonstrate
20	the above named Respondents' manipulation of documents.
21	81. In an email dated June 16, 2008 from Respondent Max to his
22	assigned branch employees, Respondent Max identified Employee
23	#3's duties as "taking care of all disclosures, verifications,
24	closing packages, and QC files."
25	82. In the same email dated June 16, 2008 from Respondent Max to his

assigned branch employees, Respondent Max identified Employee #4's duties as "getting all files processed from initial submissions to CTC".

- 83. The borrower signature was cut out on page 4 of 4 of the Consumer E loan application. The loan application disclosed Respondent's Employee #1 as the loan originator, yet the originator signature appears to be that of the processor (Employee #4).
- 84. In another loan file, Consumer F's signature was partially cut out on page 2 of 2 of the Consumer F "Fee Information from Your Mortgage Broker" disclosure document. This disclosure document named another person as loan originator, though the signature seems to be the signature of Employee #4, the loan processor.
- 85. The borrower signature was cut out of page 2 of 2 Consumer G's "Fee Information from Your Mortgage Broker" disclosure document.

  Again, this disclosure document named the same originator listed in Consumer F's file, but the signature appears to that of Employee #4, the loan processor.
- 86. The borrower signature was cut out on page 2 of 2 of Consumer H's 
  "Fee Information from Your Mortgage Broker" disclosure document.

  The cut out borrower signature was then taped onto a new disclosure document. This new disclosure document (with the cut and taped borrower signature) was then photocopied several times in order to appear to be an original copy of the disclosure document. The copy of the disclosure document was evident in the loan file maintained in Respondent 1st Metropolitan Mortgage's

- Salem, New Hampshire branch office. This newly created disclosure named Employee #1 as the loan originator, but the signature appears to be that of Employee #4, the loan processor.
- 87. Consumer I is actually two individual borrowers on the same loan file.
- 88. Consumer I's "Fee Information from Your Mortgage Broker" disclosure document contained white out over the mortgage broker fee compensation, broker fee, total and option 1 fields. This Consumer I disclosure document originally disclosed \$399.00 in mortgage broker compensation and \$495.00 in processing fees for a total of \$894.00, which is the fee agreement that one borrower of Consumer I signed on May 12, 2008 and the second borrower of Consumer I signed on May 18, 2008.
- 89. The whited out portions of Consumer I's disclosure document changed the mortgage broker compensation from \$399.00 to \$1,711.20, the broker fee from \$0.00 to \$399.00 and the total from \$894.00 to \$8,605.20 because there was an additional broker fee of \$7,711.20.
- 90. Option 3 in Consumer I's previously filed disclosure document was blank, but due to altering the document, now included a \$1,711.20 fee.
- 91. The Department also discovered a third disclosure document for Consumer I. The third disclosure document indicated the mortgage broker compensation as \$7,711.20, a processing fee of \$495.00, a broker fee of \$399.00 for a total of \$8,605.20. \$895.00 was

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indicated in option 1 and \$7,711.20 was indicated in option 3.

- 92. The two borrower signatures on Consumer I's disclosure document were not those of the borrowers.
- 93. A photocopy of Consumer I's third disclosure document was also discovered by the Department's Examiner. This third Consumer I disclosure document contained white out over one of the two borrowers' signature, had overwritten dates, and contained the borrower initials atop the overwritten dates. The initials do not appear to be those of the two Consumer I borrowers.
- 94. The above four Consumer I disclosure documents were discovered in Respondent 1st Metropolitan Mortgage's Salem, New Hampshire branch office Shred-It bins.
- 95. The Consumer I loan file contained a copy of the "Fee Information from Your Mortgage Broker" disclosure document, which had a total of \$894.00 in fees and was not signed by the two borrowers.
- 96. The Consumer I loan file also contained a copy of the third disclosure detailed above and contained signatures that were not those of the two borrowers.
- 97. The Consumer I loan file also contained a copy of the loan pricing agreement, which disclosed a total broker fee of \$894.00. This disclosure document named Respondent Max as the loan originator. However, the originator signature seems to be that of Employee #4, the loan processor.
- 98. Finally, the Consumer I loan file contained a letter entitled "To Whom It May Concern" regarding loan proceeds. The signature on

the letter named one of the two borrowers but it does not appear to be the borrower's signature.

- 99. The Consumer J "Fee Information from Your Mortgage Broker" disclosure document contained white out over the dates. The date currently on the document is May 27, 2008; yet, the original date appeared to be May 23, 2008.
- 100. The Consumer K loan file contained a disclosure document titled "What is the Most You May Have to Pay". This disclosure document contained white out over the interest rates and payments for years 3, 4, 5, and 6.
- 101. The original copy of the Consumer K disclosure document described above contained borrower signatures, disclosed interest rates of 5.875%, 5.875%, and 7.875% respectively, and payments appeared to increase from \$952.86 to \$983.26.
- 102. However, with respect to the copy of the Consumer K disclosure document with white out, the interest rates listed decreased from 5.875% to 4.25% and payments decreased from \$948.74 to 755.96.
- 103. The white out Consumer K disclosure document described above was also copied and again the copy contained white out over the interest rates and payments. However, on this white out copy of a copy, the interest rates and payments increased to 8.875% and \$1,356.44, respectively. A duplicate copy of this white out original was found in Respondent 1st Metropolitan Mortgage's Shred-It bin in the Salem, New Hampshire branch office.
- 104. The Consumer K disclosure document containing the interest rates

Counts):

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Counts):

herein.

consumer."

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Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(g) Failure to Supervise (4 Counts):

Violation of RSA 397-A:17, I(k) Dishonest or Unethical Practices (4 Counts):

Violation of RSA 397-A:17,I(1) Violation of Federal Laws and Rules (4

109. Respondents' employees attempted to influence the value

asked for an appraisal at a certain amount.

amount, which makes the loan to value at 95%."

short of Employee #2's request.

108. Paragraphs 1 through 107 are hereby realleged as fully set forth

appraisals in order to make the loan happen and the sale occur.

110. An email from Respondents' Employee #2 to an appraisal company

111. An email from another appraisal company to Respondents' Employee

appraisal company's response indicated his appraisal is a bit

#2 stated "the consumer is upside down even on the best comp

check." Employee #2 responded "here is an appraisal at a certain

Employee #2 was able to influence at least one appraiser on the

has to get more creative and find another way to make it for the

"original values will be reduced because active listings are

priced lower". Therefore, Employee #2 began mass emailing several

emails with the same script, asking for a "value at a specific

amount to make the deal work" and further stated "it is only an

The email contained the appraiser's comment that

value of the same property to make the loan work and sale occur.

112. Respondents' Employee #2, in an email to a consumer, indicated "he

However,

It appears

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113. Finally, an email from an appraiser to Respondents' Employee #2 indicated that "the appraisal was down to a certain amount and dropping." Employee #2 responded that "a certain amount (a higher amount than what the appraiser quoted) will get the deal done if the appraiser could find a way."

# SUPERVISION - FAILURE TO SUPERVISE AND SAFEGUARD CONSUMER INFORMATION -

Violation of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, Title 5, Section 501(a) via RSA

- Violation of RSA 397-A:6, I Failure to Supervise (5 Counts):
- Violation of RSA 397-A:11, I Failure to Maintain Records (3 Counts): 11
- Violation of RSA 397-A:11, IV Destruction of Records (3 Counts): 12

#### Violation of RSA 397-A:12, VII Failure to Facilitate Exam (3 Counts):

- 114. Paragraphs 1 through 113 are hereby realleged as fully set forth herein.
- 115. During an examination of Respondent 1st Metropolitan Mortgage's Hampshire branch office, Department Salem, New discovered Respondents failed to properly secure consumer information by leaving them in unlocked drawers of cubicles and desks.
- 116. When asked by the Department, Respondents could not determine if Respondent 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Mortgage had retained professionals to clean office suites and could not produce such This demonstrates a lack of supervision by Respondents.

- 117. Respondents failed to properly supervise loan originators. email from Respondent Max to another employee regarding a third was found in the Shred-It bin in Respondent Metropolitan Mortgage's Salem, New Hampshire branch office. Respondent Max stated the third employee works out of her house and to simply ensure Respondent Max's name was on the documents.
- 118. A page 3 of 3 of the Tangible Net Benefits Worksheet was also discovered in the Shred-It bin, which contained a white-out over the typed employee's name and had Respondent handwritten over it.
- 119. On August 15, 2008, the Department requested email logins and passwords for Respondent Max and Respondents' Employee #1. September 5, 2008, Respondents informed the Department that all email had been deleted.
- 120. On August 15, 2008, the Department also requested three separate loan files due to certain documentation found in Respondent 1st Metropolitan Mortgage's Salem, New Hampshire branch office Shred-It bins. On September 5, 2008, Respondents informed the Department that there were no records of these loan files.
- 121. The Department requested yet another loan file be submitted to the Department by August 20, 2008 for examination review. On September 5, 2008, Respondents informed the Department that a record of this particular loan file has not been discovered.

- 2. The Department has jurisdiction over the licensing and regulation of persons engaged in mortgage banker or broker activities pursuant to NH RSA 397-A:2 and RSA 397-A:3.
- 3. RSA 297-A:1, XVIII defines "person" as an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, association, 2 or more persons having a joint or common interest, or any other legal or commercial entity however organized.
- 4. RSA 397-A:1, VI defines a "direct owner" as any person, including individuals, that owns, beneficially owns, has the right to vote, or has the power to sell or direct the sale of 10 percent or more of the applicant or licensee. Respondent Beyman was a direct owner up until January 8, 2008, and Respondent Corporate Office Management is currently a direct owner of, Respondent 1st Metropolitan Mortgage.
- 5. With respect to direct owners and other indirect owners in a multilayered organization, RSA 397-A:1, VIII-a,(a) defines "indirect owner", in the case of an owner that is a corporation, as each of its shareholders that beneficially owns, has the right to vote, or has the power to sell or direct the sale of, 25% or more of that corporation. Respondent Jacobs and Respondent Lieber are indirect owners of Respondent 1st Metropolitan Mortgage.
- 6. RSA 397-A:2, III requires persons subject to or licensed under RSA

  Chapter 397-A to abide by applicable federal laws and regulations, the laws and rules of the State of New Hampshire,

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and the orders of the Commissioner. Any violation of such law, regulation, order, or rule is a violation of RSA Chapter 397-A. Each of the above named Respondents violated this statute on at least one hundred five occasions as alleged above.

- 7. RSA 397-A:6, I mandates that licensees supervise their employees, agents, loan originators, and branch offices. Each of the above named Respondents failed to adequately supervise and therefore violated this statute on at least forty one occasions as alleged above.
- 8. RSA 397-A:10,III provides that licensees shall provide written notice to the Department of any proposed closing of any licensed office no later than ten (10) business days prior to the effective date of such change. Each of the above named Respondents violated this statute on at least two occasions as alleged above.
- 9. RSA 397-A:10, IV provides that persons licensed under RSA Chapter 397 are under a continuing obligation to update information on file with the Commissioner. Each of the above named Respondents failed to update the Commissioner on at least two occasions as alleged above.
- 10. RSA 397-A:11, I provides that the licensee shall maintain such records as will enable the department to determine whether the licensee's business is in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and the rules adopted pursuant to it. Such records shall be maintained in a readily accessible location and made available

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for examination at the licensee's New Hampshire principal office or its New Hampshire branch office location or the office of its New Hampshire agent for a period of at least 3 years after the loan is closed, if the loan is not retained in the licensee's loan portfolio, or 3 years after the loan is paid in full, if the loan is retained in the licensee's loan portfolio. Licensees may maintain photocopies, microfilm, or microfiche copies of original documents. Each of the above named Respondents violated this provision on at least four occasions as alleged above.

- 11. RSA 397-A:11, IV provides that licensees must preserve all original business records for as long as the commissioner shall prescribe. Each of the above named Respondents violated this provision on at least three occasions as alleged above.
- 12. RSA 397-A:12, VII provides that every person being examined, and officers, all of the directors, employees, agents, and representatives of such person shall make freely available to the Commissioner or his or her examiners, the accounts, records, documents, files, information, assets, and matters in their possession or control relating to the subject of the examination and shall facilitate the examination. Each of the above named Respondents violated this statute on at least three occasions as alleged above.
- 13. RSA 397-A:12, VIII provides that upon receipt of a written report of examination, the licensee shall have 30 days or such additional reasonable period as the Commissioner for good cause

may allow., within which to review the report, recommend any changes and set forth in writing the remedial course of action the licensee will pursue to correct any reported deficiencies outlined in the report. The above named Respondents violation this provision on at least two occasions as alleged above.

- 14. RSA 397-A:17, I(f) provides that licensees are prohibited from making fraudulent misrepresentations, circumvent or conceal, through whatever subterfuge or device, any of the material particulars or the nature thereof required to be stated or furnished to a borrower under the provisions of this chapter. Each of the above named Respondents violated this provision on at least thirty-four occasions as alleged above.
- 15. RSA 397-A:17,I(g) provides that licensees engaging in business in New Hampshire must supervise their agents, originators, managers or employees. Each of the above named Respondents violated this statute on at least thirty-six occasions as alleged above.
- 16. Pursuant to RSA 397-A:17,I(k), licensees engaging in business in New Hampshire are prohibited from engaging in unethical business practices. Each of the above named Respondents violated this statute on at least thirty-six occasions as alleged above.
- 17. RSA 397-A:17,I(1) provides that licensees must abide by all federal laws or rules thereunder. Each of the above named Respondents violated several sections of Title 18 of the United States Code as defined below. Each of the above named

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Respondents violated federal law on at least thirty-six occasions as alleged above.

- 18. The Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, Title V, Sec. 501(a) states that it is the policy of the Congress that each financial institution has an affirmative and continuing obligation to respect the privacy of its customers and to protect the security and confidentiality of those customers' nonpublic personal information. Each of the above named Respondents violated this provision on at least five occasions as alleged above.
- 19. 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, et seq., provides that except as otherwise provided in this section, whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Government of the United States, knowingly and willfully (1) falsifies, conceals, or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact; (2) makes any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation; or (3) makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent or entry; shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 5 years... Each of the above named Respondents violated this provision on at least thirty-four occasions as alleged above.
- 20. 18 U.S.C. Section 1010, et seq., provides that whoever, for the purpose of obtaining any loan or advance of credit from any person, partnership, association, or corporation with the intent that such loan or advance of credit shall be offered to or

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accepted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for insurance, or for the purpose of obtaining any extension or renewal of any loan, advance of credit, or mortgage insured by such department, makes, passes, or utters, or publishes any statement, knowing the same to be false, or alters, forges, or counterfeits any instrument, paper, or document, or utters, publishes, or passes as true any instrument, paper, or document knowing it to have been altered, forged, or counterfeited, or willfully overvalues any security, asset, or income, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than two years, or both. Each of the above named Respondents violated this provision on at least thirty-four occasions as alleged above.

- 21. 18 U.S.C. Section 1344, et seq., provides that whoever knowingly executes, or attempts to execute, a scheme or artifice (1) to defraud a financial institution; or (2) to obtain any of the moneys, funds, credits, assets, securities, or other property owned by, or under the custody or control of, a financial institution, by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises; shall be fined not more than \$1,000,000.00 or imprisoned not more than 30 years, or both. Each of the above named Respondents violated this provision on at least thirty-four occasions as alleged above.
- 22. RSA 397-A:17,I provides that the Commissioner may suspend any license pending any final determination of any order to show cause or other order, or of any other proceeding under this

section, provided that the Commissioner finds that the public interest would be irreparably harmed by delay in issuing such order.

- 23. RSA 397-A:18,I provides that the Department may issue a complaint setting forth charges whenever the Department is of the opinion that the licensee or person over whom the Department has jurisdiction, has violated any provision of RSA 397-A or orders thereunder.
- 24. RSA 397-A:21, IV provides that any person who, either knowingly or negligently, violates any provision of Chapter 397-A, may upon hearing, and in addition to any other penalty provided for by law, be subject to an administrative fine not to exceed \$2,500, or both. Each of the acts specified shall constitute a separate violation, and such administrative action or fine may be imposed in addition to any criminal penalties or civil liabilities imposed by New Hampshire Banking laws.
- 25. RSA 397-A:21,V provides that every person who directly or indirectly controls a person liable under this section, every partner, principal executive officer or director of such person, every person occupying a similar status or performing a similar function, every employee of such person who materially aids in the act constituting the violation, and every licensee or person acting as a common law agent who materially aids in the acts constituting the violation, either knowingly or negligently, may, upon notice and opportunity for hearing, and in addition to any other penalty

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provided for by law, be subject to suspension, revocation, or denial of any registration or license, including the forfeiture of any application fee, or the imposition of an administrative fine not to exceed \$2,500, or both. Each of the acts specified shall constitute a separate violation, and such administrative action or fine may be imposed in addition to any criminal or civil penalties imposed.

### III. RELIEF REQUESTED

The staff of the Department requests the Commissioner take the following Action:

- Find as fact the allegations contained in section I of this Staff
   Petition;
- Make conclusions of law relative to the allegations contained in section II of the this petition;
- 3. Pursuant to RSA 397-A:17, order each of the above named Respondents to show cause why their license should not be immediately suspended;
- 4. Pursuant to RSA 397-A:17, order each of the above named Respondents to show cause why their license should not be revoked;
- 5. Pursuant to RSA 397-A:18, order each of the above named Respondents to immediately Cease and Desist from violations of this chapter;
- 6. Assess fines and administrative penalties in accordance with RSA 397-A:21, for violations of Chapter 397-A, in the number and amount equal to the violations set forth in section II of this Staff

Petition; and 7. Take such other administrative and legal actions as necessary for enforcement of the New Hampshire Banking Laws, the protection of New Hampshire citizens, and to provide other equitable relief. IV. RIGHT TO AMEND The Department reserves the right to amend this Staff Petition and to request that the Commissioner take additional administrative action. Nothing herein shall preclude the Department from bringing additional enforcement action under RSA 397-A or the regulations thereunder. Respectfully submitted by: 11/6/08 Maryam Torben Desfosses Date Hearings Examiner